

In Closing

The Natural Resource Plan was developed in recognition that greater challenges lie ahead to meet increasing environmental standards and to ensure that the finite water and land resources under TVA's stewardship are available for future generations. This document marks the first time that TVA has developed a dedicated and integrated natural resources management plan in its 77-year history. The NRP is an important evaluation for TVA, its customers and stakeholders throughout the region. Together with the Integrated Resource Plan, Reservoir Operations Study, and Shoreline Management Initiative, the NRP reflects TVA's mission to provide clean, reliable and low-cost energy, support sustainable economic growth in the region and engage in proactive environmental stewardship in a balanced and ecologically sound manner.

The Natural Resource Plan is a living, dynamic document that will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. It looks strategically at both renewable and nonrenewable resources, understanding the importance of protecting those resources that will be lost forever if they are not actively cared for or improved today. However, TVA is but one piece of the solution for managing the region's natural resources, and it recognizes the need for collective partnerships to help meet these stewardship responsibilities in the future.

As the demand for energy and economic growth in the region continues, efforts to sustain and promote environmental health will become even more critical, and the value of the activities described in the NRP will become even more apparent. TVA is committed to continuing its environmental stewardship efforts in a collaborative and comprehensive manner so that the land it manages can be enjoyed by the public for years to come.